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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/757,655	01/14/2004	Srinivas Chowdhury	AUS920030567US1	3936
50170	7590	11/16/2007		
IBM CORP. (WIP)			EXAMINER	
c/o WALDER INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW, P.C.			MOUZON, LAJUANIA N	
P.O. BOX 832745				
RICHARDSON, TX 75083			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2153	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			11/16/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/757,655

Applicant(s)

CHOWDHURY ET AL.

Examiner

La Juania N. Mouzon

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 September 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4-10, 17, 18, 20-28 and 30-43 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4-10, 17, 18, 20-28, and 30-43 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

1. This Office Action is in response to Applicant's Amendment filed 9/11/2007. Claims 1, 2, 4-10, 17, 18, 20-28, and 30-43 are pending. Claims 3, 11-16, 19, and 29 are canceled. Claims 37-43 are newly added.

### ***Specification***

2. Applicant's amendments to the specification filed on 9/11/2007, have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objections to the specification have has been withdrawn.

### ***Drawings***

3. Applicant's amendments to the drawing filed on 9/11/2007, have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objections to the drawings have has been withdrawn.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1, 2, 4-10, 17, 18, 20-28, and 30-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Srinivasan (US 5,548,506).

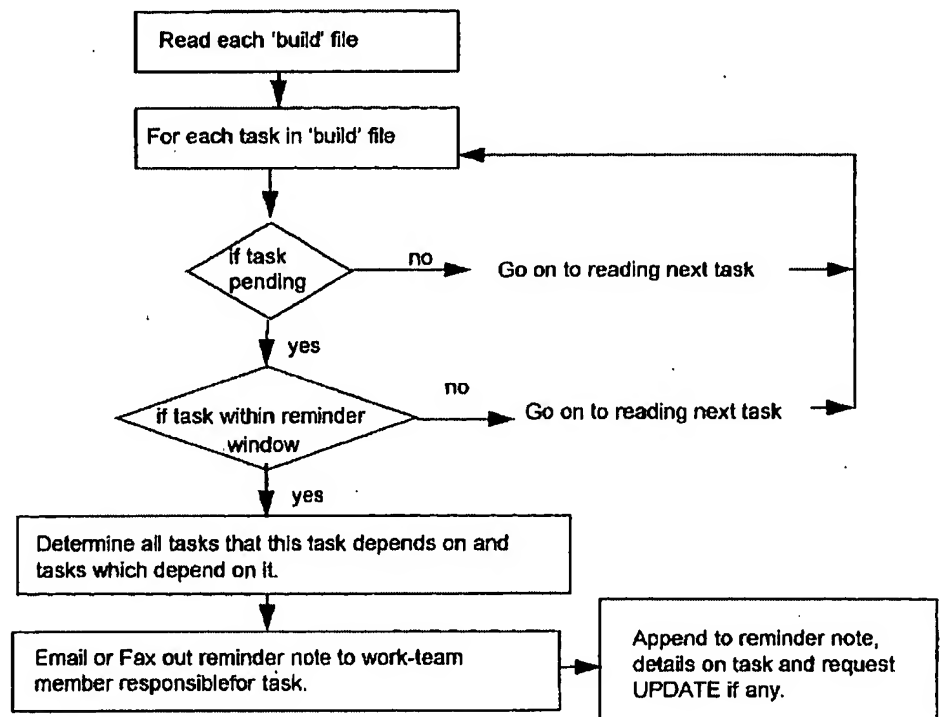
6. In regards to claim 1 Srinivasan discloses, a method of communication, the method comprising:

- a. parsing stored information, wherein the stored information identifies a plurality of project activities associated with a project and wherein each given project activity within the plurality of project activities associated with the project identifies at least one person responsible for the given project activity (**Fig 6, as seen on pg. 4, and Col. 4 line(s) 1-4, teach reading each stored build file (col. 5 line(s) 23-25, defines build files as the set of project database files stored, one for each project.)), that is associated with a plurality of project/task activities that has team members responsible for the project linked with the project.**);
- b. automatically sending at least one customized message to the at least one person responsible for each given project activity, wherein each message of the at least one customized message is in reference to a corresponding project activity of the plurality of project activities associated with the project and wherein one or more message components of each customized message are derived from the parsing of the stored information (**Fig. 6, as seen on pg. 4, and Col. 4 line(s) 1-4, teach automatically sending a customized message to the a work team member associated with each task/project. Wherein each message is related to the parsed/read information that is stored corresponding to the project activity of the plurality of project activities associated with the project.**); and

c. updating the stored information to form updated stored information, wherein updating the stored information updates the status of at least one project activity of the plurality of project activities associate with the project to identify a completion status of the at least one project activity (Fig. 7 and Col. 7 line(s) 62-67, teach that the stored information, of a project/task is updated with a completion status.).

**Fig 6 - 'Reminder' Program Flowchart**

**Objective:** To track pending tasks and remind task owners on a pre-determined frequency on when to start/finish their tasks.  
To update task owners on status of dependencies.



7. In regards to claims 2, 18, and 28 Srinivasan discloses, storing additional information with the stored information (Col. 5 line(s) 25-39, teach storing additional

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information. For example weekends, holidays, budget for resources required for doing the task, etc.).

8. In regards to claims 4, 20, and 30 Srinivasan discloses, wherein the parsing further comprises: extracting from the stored information the one or more message components chosen from message recipients, message subjects, and message contents **(Fig. 6, as seen on pg. 4, and Col. 4 line(s) 1-4, displays the extracting from the stored information message content. Furthermore, displays that it is inherent that the message recipient is extracted.)**.

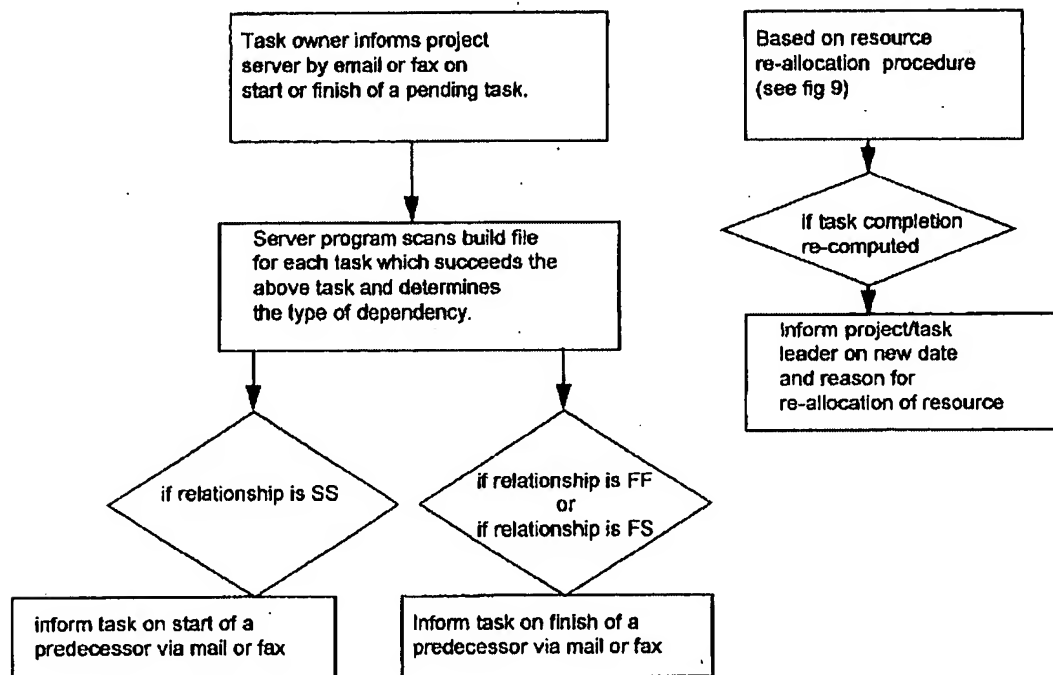
9. In regards to claims 5, 21, and 31 Srinivasan discloses, wherein the parsing further comprises: extracting from the stored information dependency information, wherein the dependency information identifies at least one project activity that is dependent on at least one other project activity within the plurality of project activities that are associated with the project **(Fig. 7, as seen on pg. 6, and Col. 7 line(s) 62-67, teach identifying dependency information when parsing the build file. The dependency information is information that identifies projects that depends on**

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other projects finishing or starting.).

**Fig 7 - 'Inform' Flowchart**

Objective : To track task completions and inform dependent tasks on start or finish status of their predecessors, thus to act as a formal channel of communication eliminating the chance of mis-information.  
To inform project and task leaders on re-computed completion dates based on resource reallocation between projects.



10. In regards to claims 6, 22, and 32 Srinivasan discloses, wherein the sending further comprises utilizing one or more communication technologies chosen from e-mail, text-to-speech, voice mail, voice over IP, wireless text messages, instant messaging, short message services, and posting on a web site (Col. 6 line(s) 24-61, teach a messaging system attached to the 'Auto Multi-Project Server' for sending emails, fax, telephone, and others.).

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11. In regards to claims 7, 23, and 33 Srinivasan discloses, wherein the at least one customized message is sent to the at least one person responsible for the given project activity (**Fig. 6, as seen on pg. 4, and Col. 4 line(s) 1-4, teach sending a customized message to a team member responsible for the given task/project.**).

12. In regards to claims 8, 24, and 34 Srinivasan discloses, creating the at least one customized message, based on a recipient's role in the project (**Fig. 6, as seen on pg. 4, and Col. 4 line(s) 1-4, teach sending a customized message to team member associated with a certain task (recipient's role) in the project.**).

13. In regards to claims 9, 25, and 35 Srinivasan discloses, creating the at least one customized message, based on a row in a table (**Fig. 3, teach a table where the information is gather, from a row, to create the customized message.**).

14. In regards to claims 10, 25 and 35 Srinivasan discloses, further comprising: creating the at least one customized message, with content limited to the given project activity for which a recipient is responsible activity (**Fig. 6, as seen on pg. 4, and Col. 4 line(s) 1-4, teach sending a customized message to a team member limited to only the given task/project this person is responsible for.**).



15. In regards to claims 17 and 27 Srinivasan discloses, a system and a computer program product stored on a computer memory of communication, the system and computer program product comprising:

d. means for parsing stored information, wherein the stored information identifies a plurality of project activities associated with a project and wherein each given project activity within the plurality of project activities associated with the project identifies at least one person responsible for the given project activity **(Fig 6 and Col. 4 line(s) 1-4, teach means for reading/parsing each stored build file (col. 5 line(s) 23-25, defines build files as the set of project database files stored, one for each project.)), that is associated with a plurality of project/task activities that has team members responsible for the project linked with the project.);**

e. means for automatically sending at least one customized message to the at least one person responsible for each given project activity, wherein each message of the at least one customized message is in reference to a corresponding project activity of the plurality of project activities associated with the project and wherein one or more message components of each customized message are derived from the parsing of the stored information **(Fig. 6, as seen on pg. 4, and Col. 4 line(s) 1-4, teach means for automatically sending a customized message to the a work team member associated with each task/project. Wherein each message is related to the parsed/read**

**information that is stored corresponding to the project activity of the plurality of project activities associated with the project.); and**

f. means for updating the stored information to form updated stored information, wherein updating the stored information updates the status of at least one project activity of the plurality of project activities associate with the project to identify a completion status of the at least one project activity (**Fig. 7 and Col. 7 line(s) 62-67, teach means for the stored information, of a project/task is updated with a completion status.**).

16. In regards to claim 37 Srinivasan discloses, wherein updating the stored information closes one of the plurality of project activities, thereby leaving one or more open project activities (**Fig. 8**) and wherein the method further comprises:

g. parsing the updated stored information (**Fig. 6, as seen on pg. 4, and Col. 4 line(s) 1-4, teach parsing the updated stored information.**); and

h. automatically sending at least one second customized message to the at least one person responsible for the one or more open project activities, wherein each message of the at least one second customized message is in reference to a corresponding open project activity of the one or more open activities and wherein one or more components of each one second customized message are derived from the parsing of the updated stored information (**Fig. 6, as seen on**

**pg. 4, and Col. 4 line(s) 1-4, teach sending a (second) customized message to a team member responsible for a task/project from the parsed information.).**

17. In regards to claims 38 and 39 Srinivasan discloses, wherein the means for updating the stored information closes one of the plurality of project activities, thereby leaving one or more open project activities and wherein the system further comprises:

i. means for parsing the updated stored information (**Fig. 6, as seen on pg. 4, and Col. 4 line(s) 1-4, teach means for parsing the updated stored information.); and**

j. means for automatically sending at least one second customized message to the at least one person responsible for the one or more open project activities, wherein each message of the at least one second customized message is in reference to a corresponding open project activity of the one or more open activities and wherein one or more components of each one second customized message are derived from the parsing of the updated stored information (**Fig. 6, as seen on pg. 4, and Col. 4 line(s) 1-4, teach means for sending a (second) customized message to a team member responsible for a task/project from the parsed information.).**

18. In regards to claim 40 Srinivasan discloses, extracting from the stored information defect information, wherein the defect information identifies at least one project activity that is defective within the plurality of project activities that are associated with the project **(Fig. 9 and Col. 5 line(s) 64-67 – Col. 6 line(s) 1-2, teach checking/extracting from the stored information if resource limits are exceeded (defect information) to run a project activity that is part of a plurality of project activities that are linked with the project.)**.

19. In regards to claims 41 and 42 Srinivasan discloses, wherein the means for parsing further comprises: means for extracting from the stored information defect information, wherein the defect information identifies at least one project activity that is defective within the plurality of project activities that are associated with the project **(Fig. 9 and Col. 5 line(s) 64-67 – Col. 6 line(s) 1-2, teach means for checking/extracting from the stored information if resource limits are exceeded (defect information) to run a project activity that is part of a plurality of project activities that are linked with the project.)**.

20. In regards to claim 43 Srinivasan discloses, a method of communication, the method comprising:

- k. receiving a plurality of project activities that are associated with a project **(Fig. 4 and Col. 7 line(s) 32-40, teach the project leader sending an email or**

**fax, containing project activities for a project, for the 'Auto Multi-Project Server' to receive.);**

**l. receiving an identification of at least one person responsible for each given project activity within the plurality of activities associated with the project (Fig. 4 and Col. 7 line(s) 32-40, teach 'Auto Multi-Project Server' receiving the members associated with the project.) ;**

**m. storing the plurality of activities associated with the project and the at least one person responsible for each given project activity as stored information (Fig. 2 #40-60 and Fig. 4 and Col. 5 line(s) 52-63, teach that during the creation process a new database project file is created with the database creation module. Likewise during this process team members name are check to ensure that all the information needed is available to store with their task (Col. 7 line(s) 35-40).);**

**n. parsing the stored information, wherein parsing the stored information identifies open project activities within the plurality of project activities associated with the project (Fig 6, as seen on pg. 4, and Col. 4 line(s) 1-4, teach reading/parsing each stored build file (col. 5 line(s) 23-25, defines build files as the set of project database files stored, one for each project.)), wherein reading/parsing the file (stored information) is of open project activities within the plurality of project activities associated with the project.); and**

- o. automatically sending at least one customized message to the at least one person responsible for each given project activity with the open project activities and wherein one or more components of the at least one customized message are derived from the parsing of the stored information (**Fig. 6 and Col. 4 line(s) 1-4, teach automatically sending a customized message to a team member about the parsed stored information.**).

### ***Response to Arguments***

21. Applicant's arguments, see pgs. 15-20, filed 9/11/2007, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-36 under 102(e) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Srinivasan (US 5,548,506).

22. Applicant's arguments, see pg. 15, filed 9/11/2007, with respect to 101 rejection of claims 27-36 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 27-36 has been withdrawn.

### ***Conclusion***

23. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Foellet al. (US 7,139,720) project planning system and method for accommodating ad hoc requests within a fixed core development cycle.

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24. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

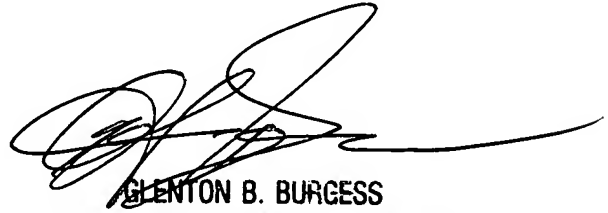
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to La Juania N. Mouzon whose telephone number is 571-270-3045. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:00-5:00, 1st Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton Burgess can be reached on 571-272-3949. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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